

**SALINE AREA SCHOOLS  
BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**MINUTES**

**Liberty Media Center  
Tuesday, March 23, 2010  
6:30 PM**

1. **CALL TO ORDER** of the Regular Meeting of March 23, 2010 at 6:30 PM by Board President Friese.

Members Present

Trustee Cattell, Board President Friese, Trustee Hoefft, Student Representative Hogikyan, Trustee Hynek, Secretary Lesch, Vice President Medley, and Trustee Slawson

Central Administration Present

Superintendent Graden, Assistant Superintendent Laatsch, and Assistant Superintendent Wall

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
3. **ITEMS OF INTEREST AND INQUIRY**

**A. Public**

None at this time.

**B. Administration**

Congratulations to the Boys Swim and Dive Team on their Division I State Title! It is our first Boys Swim and Dive title – our record 3<sup>rd</sup> State Team Championship of the year!

Superintendent Graden spoke about the Pittsfield Township and City of Saline application to be a location for the Google Fiber project. Technology Director Lupo has provided some technical assistance and we have publicly expressed our interest in our school community having quality high-speed Internet access.

We have set Tuesday, March 30<sup>th</sup> and Monday, April 12<sup>th</sup> as Community Budget Forum dates. These meetings will be set up to provide feedback regarding possible reduction options. The plan is to share information and then break out into small groups and report out on their collective thoughts.

We will be holding a Denim Day fundraiser for the summer program Hornet Camp. Hornet Camp is offered through Community Education for students in Grades K-12 with special needs. This program is for students in Saline whom would not normally

be able to participate in most summer recreation programs. The goals of this summer program are to provide these children with daily activities in life skills, basic academics, and socialization with peers.

There will also be another Denim Day Fundraiser for Cystic Fibrosis held on Friday, April 16<sup>th</sup>.

Please save the following dates:

May 12 - Honors Banquet at Saline High School

May 13 – Foundation for Saline Area Schools at Stonebridge

Assistant Superintendent Laatsch reported that Dawn Ducca recently wrote a grant to Pepsi to help purchase additional leveled text trade books. The greatest number of votes disperses the funding. Beginning April 1<sup>st</sup> he urged everyone to log onto [www.refresheverything.com](http://www.refresheverything.com) and search Saline to vote.

The Administration Team continues to meet to address all sorts of issues including the traffic situation in front of Heritage and Woodland Meadows, play area at the Middle School, scheduling in all the buildings, etc. An announcement will be coming soon regarding the location of services that were previously undecided, i.e., Young 5s, Pooh Corner, EDO, etc.

Assistant Superintendent Laatsch has been working with John Mason and the Union Representatives to develop a schedule that is efficient at the 5<sup>th</sup> grade to still maintain the integrity of the music program.

On Thursday, March 25<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM there will be a Middle School Transition Meeting. They will be discussing the 6<sup>th</sup> grade transition to the Middle School next fall.

Assistant Superintendent Wall has been working with the WISD on the transportation consolidation issue. He and his staff have currently put in over 200 hours of work. No commitment has been made at this time.

Assistant Superintendent Wall passed out the financial reports to the Board. He indicated that we currently are expecting no cash flow borrowing this year. This will save the District roughly \$30,000.

**C. Board of Education Members**

Trustee Hynek attended Bandorama last night where over 900 students showcased their musical talent. He also worked at the Craft Show this past Saturday serving food. The community enjoyed both events.

Congratulations to the Saline High School Science Olympiad Team for their first place performance at the Regional Tournament held at Hillsdale College on March 20, 2010. A total of 13 teams participated in the Regional Tournament. The team advances to

the State Level Competition, which will be held at Michigan State University on May 1, 2010.

Congratulations to Jody Gielinski on being named the Outstanding Administrator for DECA for the 2009-2010 year.

**4. REVISIONS/APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Remove Action Item 6E per the SEA's (Tim Timoszyk) request. It will be rescheduled on an upcoming agenda.

**MOTION** made by Trustee Hoeft, supported by Trustee Slawson to approved the agenda as revised.

Ayes – All Present – **MOTION CARRIED**

**5. SCHEDULED REPORTS/PUBLIC STATEMENTS**

**A. FFA Night – Superintendent Graden**

Mr. David Mellor, Agricultural Science Teacher at the High School began the presentation with a brief history of the program. Agriculture and Natural Resources has been taught in Saline Area Schools for 100 years effective 2010 making it one of the oldest programs in Michigan. Saline has had an FFA Chapter since 1937.

The program has a long history of both State and National recognition for its student accomplishments. It is rated #1 in Michigan for turf grass management proficiency for four consecutive years and was named #1 in the nation in 2006 for turf grass management. The program is ranked in the top 10 programs in Michigan by the MDE Trac Audit. As of March 2010, Saline has the top Veterinary Management student and top Equine Management student in Michigan. In addition for 2010, Students were named #2 for Michigan Star in Agribusiness, 4<sup>th</sup> place in state public speaking, and 6<sup>th</sup> place in the state job interview contests. On March 11<sup>th</sup> a Saline FFA member played piano and sang for the Michigan Legislature in the rotunda of the capital at a special presentation.

The following students were in attendance and won the following awards:

David Hammond

- Runner Up - Star in Agribusiness - State Degree
- Gold Outstanding State Degree
- State Silver - Turf Grass Management Entrepreneurship
- State Silver - Swine Production
- Academic Excellence Award 3.3+ GPA

Paige Cooper

- State Bronze-Ag Sales- Placement
- Michigan Outstanding Junior

Rebecca Lezotte

- State Bronze - Ag Sales - Placement
- Michigan Outstanding Junior

Samantha Mamarow

- State Silver - Dairy Production Placement
- Academic Excellence Award 3.3+ GPA
- State Degree

Melissa Girbach

- State Winner - Equine Management Entrepreneurship
- Gold Outstanding State Degree
- State Silver - Diversified Livestock Production Entrepreneurship

Brandy Brewer

- State Degree
- Academic Excellence Award - Gold
- State Gold- Small Animal Care Entrepreneurship

Kristina Schneider

- 4th Place State Greenhand Public Speaking
- 1st Place Region II Greenhand Public Speaking
- 1st Place District Greenhand Public Speaking

Kyle Marcyan

- State Degree
- State Silver - Equine Management Placement

Natasha Bardsley

- Michigan Outstanding Junior
- 4th Place District Prepared Public Speaking

Congratulations to all the students on a job well done!

## **6. ACTION ITEMS**

- A. MOTION** made by Secretary Lesch, seconded by Vice President Medley to **approve the recommendation of the Pay to Participate Committee as presented by Athletic Director White.**

Athletic Director White gave an overview of the Athletic Department. He outlined the Core Values, which are team, integrity, responsibility, accountability, honesty, loyalty, and respect.

The goals of Athletic Participation are as follows:

- Teamwork (self discipline, respect for authority, hard work, and sacrifice)
- Success (not always from a win, but in always doing your best)

- Sportsmanship (accepting a win with grace and humility, accepting a defeat with dignity, emotional control, honesty, cooperativeness, dependability)
- Desirable Health Habits (well-balanced diet, exercise, and abstaining from harmful substances)

There are currently 22 Varsity Sports (42 teams) and 10 club sports (16 teams) at the High School and seven sports (19 teams) at the Middle School.

After much review the Pay to Participate Committee recommended the following changes for the 2010-2011 school year:

- High School Pay to Participate increase from \$150 to \$175
- Middle School Pay to Participate remains the same at \$125
- Family Cap of \$500
- Student Hornet Pass included with fee for all levels

Athletic Director White indicated that scholarships were available for those students in need. To qualify you must participate in the free and reduced lunch program.

Trustee Slawson asked if our Pay to Participate rates were comparable to other schools in our District and Athletic Director White indicated that we are comparable and fall right about in the middle compared to rates charged by other schools in our area.

A discussion was held on raising the price of the Hornet passes and whether senior citizens should be charged. Athletic Director White indicated that the free senior citizen pass was a league decision. The rates for most High School events are \$5.00 and Middle School events \$3.00 throughout the conference.

Trustee Hoeft thanked the committee for all the hard work and excellent information presented tonight.

Ayes – All Present – **MOTION CARRIED**

**B. MOTION** made by Secretary Lesch, seconded by Trustee Slawson to **approve the Project Lead the Way proposal as presented by Assistant Superintendent Laatsch.**

Assistant Superintendent Laatsch explained the Project Lead the Way Proposal. There is a cost of approximately \$60,000 associated with this to purchase computers and hands on components that go with the program but to date they have received \$35,000 in grant money.

Trustee Hynek asked if any other Districts in our county participate in this program and Assistant Superintendent Laatsch indicated that Skyline High School, Lincoln Middle School, and Lake Fenton Middle School currently participate in this program. He also indicated that there is national data to support the good results they have seen with this program.

Trustee Slawson asked if the attorneys would be looking at this agreement and Superintendent Graden indicated yes.

Ayes – All Present – **MOTION CARRIED**

- C. MOTION** made by Secretary Lesch, seconded by Vice President Medley to **approve the CARES Funding for Phase II as presented by Community Education Director Puffer.**

Community Education Director Puffer outlined the six requests received by the CARES Board for consideration. The CARES Board approved grants for the Community Fair, High School Teaching Greenhouse, Middle School Cafeteria Courtyard, SAYB&S Field Improvements, and the High School Girls Field Hockey Expansion totaling \$46,300.00.

Trustee Slawson asked about the request for the Community Fair and Community Education Director Puffer indicated that the current fair model is not sustainable. They are working on ways to improve it and want to use the grant as seed money to move the date into August away from the start of school.

Secretary Lesch thanked the committee for the nice job they did of scrutinizing the grants. He felt that they made some very reasonable choices.

Board President Friese asked how much funding was left for Round 3 and Community Education indicated approximately \$4,000.00.

Ayes – All Present – **MOTION CARRIED**

- D. MOTION** made by Trustee Hoeft, seconded by Trustee Slawson to **adopt the following changes to the Policy Manual – Superintendent Evaluation – 2250; Online Learning – 7642 and District Support Organizations – 9720 as outlined by Trustee Hynek.**

Trustee Hynek explained that changes to the Superintendent Evaluation Policy which required changing the timeline due to the January to December Board terms.

The changes to the Online Learning Policy were to outline the district philosophy.

The District Support Organizations Policies were combined together to form one policy. Assistant Superintendent Wall added best practices for accounting procedures.

Ayes – All Present – **MOTION CARRIED**

**7. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

**A. Policy Committee Update – Trustee Hynek**

A lengthy discussion was held about Policy 7560 – Grading System. Assistant Superintendent Laatsch presented the Grading Committee's recommendation to the group. Trustee Hynek will draft a proposed policy and submit it to the committee at the next meeting. The next Policy Meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 20<sup>th</sup> in the Superintendent's Office at 5:00 PM.

Student Representative Hogikyan stated that the students may have different and unique perspectives on this subject and we should try to reach as many students as possible to let them know about this meeting.

Board President Friese asked the members of the Superintendent Evaluation Committee to develop the Board Evaluation.

**B. Teen Center/CQC Funding Request – Superintendent Graden**

Superintendent Graden referred to a letter dated March 11 from David Rhoads in the Board Packet requesting funding for a Teen Center. He is requesting that CARES funds that are not part of the discretionary fund but funds already earmarked for the Teen Center be used. For this reason they can come directly to the Board for approval.

David Rhoads, CQC Treasurer and President of the Board of the 5<sup>th</sup> Corner Teen Center spoke about the efforts to start a Teen Center in Saline. Recently Peter Rufener of Saline Community Church came to CQC with a proposal to form a Teen Center and locate it in a former church building at the corner of South Ann Arbor Street and Willis Road. The CQC Board of Directors approved the concept in the fall of 2009.

An Administrative Board of Directors for the 5<sup>th</sup> Corner is in process of being formed and CQC has finalized an Operating Agreement with the 5<sup>th</sup> Corner. An employer ID has been obtained from the IRS to begin the process of tracking receipts and expenditures and to file the necessary State and Federal Reports. The remaining steps before opening are predicated upon receiving the commitment for \$65,700 to be disbursed monthly at the rate of \$1,825 beginning on May 1, 2010 and continuing for the next 36 months.

In addition, they are requesting a one-time grant of \$5,000 to purchase four computers, two televisions, one Wii, one Xbox and the associated wiring to connect to the Internet.

Mr. Rhoads emphasized that no religious activities, symbols or furnishings will happen during Teen Center hours.

Trustee Slawson would like our attorneys to review this agreement to see if tax dollars can be used for this type of venture. Superintendent Graden agreed to send the document to our attorney for review.

Board President Friese asked about using the Senior Center and Mr. Rhoads indicated that evening activities would conflict for both parties.

Trustee Hoeft asked whether they had looked into leasing a facility and Mr. Rhoads indicated that they would not be able to obtain a space for that amount of money that would work as well.

Trustee Hynek asked if they could provide the Board with more information such as hours of operation, concept, adult supervision, input from Saline students, etc.

Board President Friese asked to table the discussion until we obtain more information from our attorney and have a chance to look at it in greater depth.

## 8. **CONSENT AGENDA**

**MOTION** made by Secretary Lesch, seconded by Trustee Hynek to authorize the following items as part of the Consent Agenda:

- A. **Approval** of the Regular Board of Education Minutes of March 9, 2010 and Special Board of Education Meeting of March 8, 2010.
- B. **Approval of Payment** of the General Fund Accounts Payable of March 23, 2010, in the amount of \$224,912.82.
- C. **Receive and File** letter from Superintendent Graden accepting the retirement of Beverly Carpentier as a teacher effective June 30, 2010.
- D. **Receive and File** memorandum from Superintendent Graden requesting approval for the following field trips:
  - Michigan Restaurant Association Competition Field Trip on March 13-14, 2010.
  - Skills/USA State Conference and Competition (Timoszyk) on April 16-18, 2010.
  - Skills/USA State Conference and Competition (Galimore) on April 16-18, 2010.
  - Skills/USA State Conference (Kohl/Twichell) on April 16-18, 2010.
  - Skills/USA State Conference and Competition (Riesterer) on April 16-17, 2010.
  - Skills/USA State Conference and Competition (Jodway) on April 16-18, 2010.
  - Skills/USA State Conference and Competition (Freeburn) on April 14-16, 2010.
  - HOSA Cocurricular Competition Event (Kofahl) on April 15-17, 2010.

Ayes – All Present – **MOTION CARRIED**

**9. PUBLIC COMMENT**

David Rhoads gave a status report that Henne Field will be open for play this spring. The ball diamonds, walking path, and parking lots on both ends have been completed. They currently have \$40,000 left of available funding and will be meeting and end of April to determine next steps. It is a great thing for the community.

He also reported that City Council has put a six-month moratorium on any organization trying to open a Medical Marijuana shop in Saline.

Matt Needham, SHS Student wanted the Board to make very clear to the students why the Golden Sting may be cut next year. The Golden Sting staff has worked very hard to raise money to keep the cost down. He asked the Board to keep that in mind when making their decision.

**10. CLOSED SESSION**

**MOTION** made by Trustee Slawson, seconded by Secretary Lesch to enter Closed Session of the Board of Education at 8:25 PM, with the intent to re-enter Open Session at 9:15 PM., for the purpose of collective bargaining.

**ROLL CALL VOTE**

Trustee Cattell – Aye  
Board President Friese – Aye  
Trustee Hoeft – Aye  
Trustee Hynek – Aye  
Secretary Lesch – Aye  
Vice President Medley – Aye  
Trustee Slawson - Aye

**RE-ENTER OPEN SESSION** at 9:00 PM.

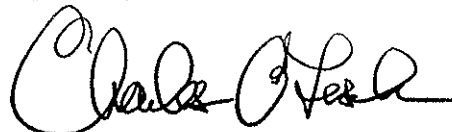
**11. ITEMS SCHEDULED ON NEXT AGENDA**

A.

**12. ADJOURNMENT**

Adjourn the Regular Board of Education Meeting of March 23, 2010, at 9:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Chuck Lesch, Secretary

By: Patti Waltz, Recording Secretary